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DA 01-1013

April 19, 2001

MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME GRANTED IN IB DOCKET NO. 00-248

On December 14, 2000, the Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in IB Docket No. 00-248, seeking comment on several proposals to streamline the earth station license processing rules in Part 25 of its rules, 47 C.F.R. Part 25. Comments in this proceeding were due on March 26, 2001, and replies are scheduled to be filed on or before April 23, 2001.

On April 16, 2001, the Satellite Industry Association (SIA) filed a motion to extend the date for filing replies by 30 days, to May 23, 2001. SIA asserts that its members are in the process of developing a consensus approach with respect to many issues regarding geosynchronous orbit (GSO) satellite use of the Ku-band in the fixed-satellite service (FSS), and those parties need an additional 30 days to reach agreement. SIA also requests that all interested parties be allowed to file replies on or before May 23, 2001.

The Commission does not routinely grant motions for extension of time. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(a). We conclude, however, that SIA's efforts to develop a consensus approach to Ku-band GSO FSS issues may facilitate the resolution of those issues, and so may further the public interest. Accordingly, we will allow all interested parties in this proceeding some additional time to file replies. However, we find that 14 days, rather than the requested 30 days, is sufficient time to develop a consensus.

Replies in IB Docket No. 00-248 are now due on or before **May 7, 2001**.

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